

Message Text

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13

ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ERDA-05 PM-04 FEA-01 ACDA-07

CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05

DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 /091 W

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R 231252Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2393

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 5573

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH ENRG EG IS

SUBJ: NUCLEAR COOPERATION TREATY

REF: STATE 94650

1. MAHER ABAZA, MINELECTRICITY UNDERSECRETARY ASKED EMBOFF APRIL 22 HIS OPINION ON POSSIBILITY COMPLETING NEGOTIATIONS FOR U.S. - EGYPTIAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT BY END OF MAY, WITH SIGNATURE FOLLOWING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ABAZA DESCRIBED EGYPTIAN/AMERICAN DIFFERENCES AS VERY MINOR AND SAID HE HOPED THAT PRCESS CAN BE CONCLUDED QUICKLY. EMBOFF REMINDED ABAZA THAT INDEED EGYPTIAN/AMERICAN DIFFERENCES AT THIS POINT ARE SMALL IN NUMBER BUT ARE OF CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE. EMBOFF TOLD ABAZA THAT WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY WASHINGTON THAT A REPLY TO EGYPTIAN POINTS CAN BE EXPECTED IN NEAR FUTURE (STATE 80179). (NOTE: AMBASSADOR HAD EARLIER INFORMED BUBEILI OF THIS).

2. WE NOTE FROM STATE 94650 THAT DEPARTMENT APPEARS TO BE THINKING ALONG SAME LINES ON TIMING AS ABAZA. IT HAS BEEN OUR IMPRESSION THAT DIFFERENCE WOULD NOT BE SO EASILY RESOLVED. WE
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WOULD APPRECIATE INFORMATION (NOT FOR PASSING TO

EGYPTIANS) ON CURRENT STATUS OF OUR CONSIDERATION
LATEST EGYTIAN POINTS AND POSSIBILITY OF
COMPLETING NEGOTIATIONS IN MAY/JUNE TIMEFRAME.

3. ON PRESIDENT SADAT'S VISIT TO EUROPE, ABAZA
SAID THAT NUCLEAR COOPERATION WAS DISCUSSED IN
VERY GENERAL TERMS WITH BOTH FRENCH AND GERMANS.
MINISTER SULTAN HAS DECIDED, HOWEVER, FIRST TWO
NUCLEAR POWER GENERATING PLANTS IN EGYPT WILL
BE AMERICAN. HE NOTED THERE "FIFTEEN"
OTHER NUCLEAR PLANTS PLANNED FOR EGYPT IN LONG-TERM
AND IT MAY BE DESIRABLE FOR EGYPTIANS TO LOOK TO
THE FRENCH AND GERMANS AFTER CONCLUSION OF TWO
AMERICAN STATIONS FOR DIVERSE SOURCES NUCLEAR
TECHNOLGY. ACCORDING TO ABAZA, EGYPTIANS HAVE
NO PLANS AT PRESENT ACTIVELY TO PURSUE ACQUISITION
OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY FROM EITHER FRANCE OR GERMANY.

4. IN COURSE OF DISCUSSION ABAZA MENTIONED BOTH
FRENCH AND GERMAN INABILITY PROVIDE NECESSARY FUNDS
FOR NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS. IMPLICIT IN ABAZA'S
REMARKS IS CONTINUED HOPE THAT US WILL SOMEHOW PROVIDE
FUNDS FOR FIST NUCLEAR POWER GENERATING PLANT.
EILTS

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